

CROP-WEATHER REPORT

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For Month Ending: January 31, 2004

ISSUED: WEEKLY: Apr-Oct
MONTHLY: Nov-Mar

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Agricultural Summary

January brought sub zero temperatures and snow fall to the vast majority of the state. Kalispell received the greatest amount of precipitation for the month of January at 1.97 inches. The weather outlook for the week of February 9-15 is for normal temperatures and above normal precipitation for the entire state of Montana. Normal temperatures for this period are lows from 5 to the upper teens and highs from the middle 20s to upper 30s.

Soil Moisture Condition Table

| | This Month | Last Year |
|-------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Topsoil Moisture | | |
| Very Short | 11 | 25 |
| Short | 30 | 46 |
| Adequate | 55 | 26 |
| Surplus | 4 | 3 |
| Subsoil Moisture | | |
| Very Short | 34 | 45 |
| Short | 43 | 39 |
| Adequate | 22 | 16 |
| Surplus | 1 | 0 |

Field Crops and Livestock Report

Winter wheat conditions are above last year due to less wind and freeze or drought damage. Snow cover for winter wheat has improved significantly from last year.

Snow fall has closed much of the pastures available for grazing. Only 16 percent of the pastures are open for grazing compared to last year's rating of 81 percent open. Calving and lambing is just beginning and will be well underway during February.

Crop Table

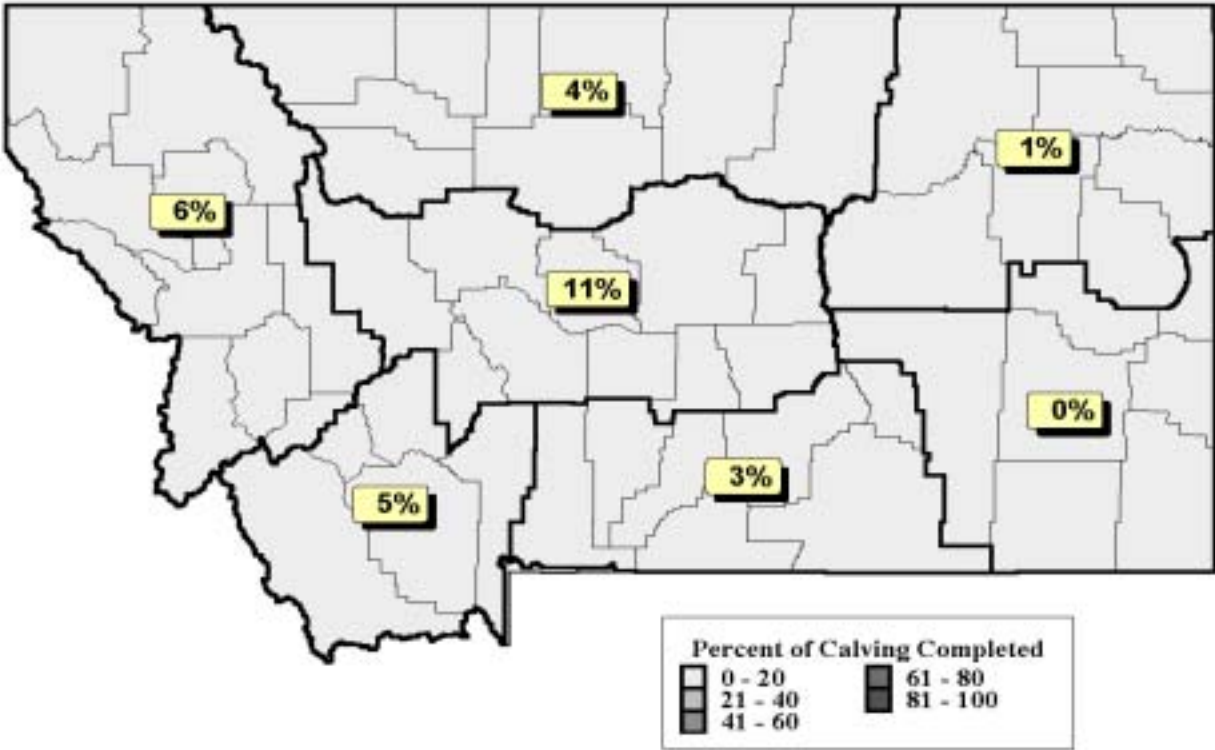
| | This Month | Last Year |
|--|------------|-----------|
| Winter Wheat - Condition | | |
| Very Poor | 5 | 3 |
| Poor | 13 | 25 |
| Fair | 46 | 42 |
| Good | 33 | 28 |
| Excellent | 3 | 2 |
| Winter Wheat - Wind Damage | | |
| None | 29 | 27 |
| Light | 40 | 23 |
| Moderate | 19 | 49 |
| Heavy | 12 | 1 |
| Winter Wheat - Freeze & Drought Damage | | |
| None | 31 | 11 |
| Light | 37 | 36 |
| Moderate | 28 | 51 |
| Heavy | 4 | 2 |
| Winter Wheat - Protectiveness of Snow Cover Condition | | |
| Very Poor | 6 | 83 |
| Poor | 9 | 9 |
| Fair | 26 | 8 |
| Good | 41 | 0 |
| Excellent | 18 | 0 |

Livestock Table

| | This Month | Last Year |
|------------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| Livestock Grazing | | |
| Open | 16 | 81 |
| Difficult | 31 | 15 |
| Closed | 53 | 4 |
| Receiving Supplemental Feed | | |
| Cattle | 100 | 96 |
| Sheep and Lambs | 100 | 94 |
| Calving Completed | 4 | 4 |
| Lambing Completed | 2 | 3 |

Percent of Calving Completed

by District for the Month Ending January 31, 2004



THIS INFORMATION IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT <http://www.nass.usda.gov/mt/>

Compiled and Summarized by:
Montana Agricultural Statistics Service

In conjunction with:
MSU Extension Agents

USDA County Service Centers
National Weather Service

Weather Information Table For Month Ending: January 31, 2004 1/

| STATION | PRECIPITATION | | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|--------|----------|-------------------------|-----------|----------|
| | January 2004 | | | October 1, 2003 to Date | | |
| | Total | Normal | % Normal | Total 2/ | Normal 3/ | % Normal |
| NORTHWEST | | | | | | |
| Drummond | 0.57 | 0.79 | 72 | 2.85 | 3.15 | 90 |
| Hamilton | 0.09 | 1.11 | 8 | 1.86 | 4.14 | 45 |
| Kalispell | 1.97 | 1.47 | 134 | 5.53 | 5.53 | 100 |
| Libby | 1.07 | 1.95 | 55 | M | M | M |
| Missoula | 1.04 | 1.06 | 98 | 4.18 | 4.00 | 105 |
| Polson | 1.31 | 1.11 | 118 | 3.70 | 4.51 | 82 |
| Superior | 0.95 | 1.48 | 64 | 4.51 | 5.91 | 76 |
| Thompson Falls | M | M | M | M | M | M |
| West Glacier | M | M | M | M | M | M |
| NORTH CENTRAL | | | | | | |
| Chester | 0.10 | 0.38 | 26 | 1.35 | 1.61 | 84 |
| Choteau | 0.24 | 0.25 | 96 | 1.43 | 1.24 | 115 |
| Conrad | M | M | M | M | M | M |
| Cut Bank | 0.04 | 0.39 | 10 | 0.60 | 1.61 | 37 |
| Ft. Benton | M | M | M | M | M | M |
| Gold Butte | 0.67 | 0.42 | 160 | 2.41 | 2.09 | 115 |
| Harlem | 0.64 | 0.41 | 156 | 2.08 | 1.76 | 118 |
| Havre | 0.18 | 0.47 | 38 | 0.88 | 2.05 | 43 |
| Malta | 1.09 | 0.38 | 287 | 3.38 | 2.07 | 163 |
| Shelby | M | M | M | 0.35 | 1.68 | 21 |
| Turner | 1.06 | 0.29 | 366 | 3.86 | 1.68 | 230 |
| Valier | 0.19 | 0.31 | 61 | 1.88 | 1.57 | 120 |
| NORTHEAST | | | | | | |
| Culbertson | 0.81 | 0.31 | 261 | 2.26 | 1.96 | 115 |
| Glasgow | 1.01 | 0.35 | 289 | 2.99 | 1.82 | 164 |
| Glendive | 0.72 | 0.41 | 176 | 2.49 | 2.30 | 108 |
| Jordan | 0.00 | 0.51 | 0 | 1.38 | 2.34 | 59 |
| Plentywood | M | M | M | M | M | M |
| Scobey | 0.83 | 0.26 | 319 | 2.16 | 1.58 | 137 |
| Sidney | 1.28 | 0.41 | 312 | 2.68 | 2.55 | 105 |
| Wolf Point | 0.26 | 0.45 | 58 | 1.95 | 1.89 | 103 |
| CENTRAL | | | | | | |
| Cascade | M | M | M | M | M | M |
| Flatwillow | 0.16 | 0.57 | 28 | 2.34 | 2.42 | 97 |
| Great Falls | 0.24 | 0.68 | 35 | 0.80 | 2.87 | 28 |
| Harlowton | 0.35 | 0.45 | 78 | 2.45 | 2.23 | 110 |
| Helena | 0.22 | 0.52 | 42 | 1.11 | 2.12 | 52 |
| Lewistown | 0.20 | 0.89 | 22 | 2.62 | 3.52 | 74 |
| Melstone | M | M | M | 2.66 | 2.85 | 93 |
| Roundup | 0.40 | 0.43 | 93 | 2.28 | 2.26 | 101 |
| Stanford | 0.40 | 0.69 | 58 | 3.57 | 2.98 | 120 |
| White Sulphur Spr | 0.33 | 0.47 | 70 | 1.34 | 2.37 | 57 |
| SOUTHWEST | | | | | | |
| Anaconda | 0.53 | 0.58 | 91 | 2.69 | 2.89 | 93 |
| Belgrade | 0.31 | 0.60 | 52 | 1.84 | 3.09 | 60 |
| Bozeman MSU | 0.80 | 0.84 | 95 | 3.88 | 4.34 | 89 |
| Butte | 0.32 | 0.53 | 60 | 1.06 | 2.45 | 43 |
| Dillon | 0.02 | 0.37 | 5 | 0.72 | 1.96 | 37 |
| Ennis | 0.54 | 0.46 | 117 | 2.24 | 2.56 | 88 |
| Wisdom | 0.44 | 0.62 | 71 | 2.85 | 2.87 | 99 |
| SOUTH CENTRAL | | | | | | |
| Billings | 0.25 | 0.81 | 31 | 2.54 | 3.49 | 73 |
| Gardiner | 0.26 | 0.37 | 70 | 1.21 | 2.21 | 55 |
| Hardin | 0.04 | 0.61 | 7 | 2.45 | 2.97 | 82 |
| Livingston | 0.12 | 0.64 | 19 | 2.69 | 3.14 | 86 |
| Rapelje | 0.32 | 0.63 | 51 | 2.28 | 3.12 | 73 |
| Red Lodge | M | M | M | M | M | M |
| SOUTHEAST | | | | | | |
| Baker | 0.01 | 0.51 | 2 | 0.91 | 2.74 | 33 |
| Broadus | 0.00 | 0.49 | 0 | 1.38 | 2.82 | 49 |
| Ekalaka | 0.48 | 0.59 | 81 | 2.62 | 3.54 | 74 |
| Miles City | 0.18 | 0.50 | 36 | 2.16 | 2.60 | 83 |

1/ Data from National Weather Service. 2/ May be revised weekly. 3/ For period 1971-2000. M-More than 25% of reporting days are missing.